



ATTENTION

RE: Environmental Sample Collection, Handling, and Preservation Requirements

This is a reminder regarding requirements for environmental samples that are received at all State Hygienic Laboratory locations. Inorganic and organic chemical contaminant methods that require thermal preservation must meet the following criteria:

If the sample(s) arrive at the laboratory less than 24 hours after collection then:	If the sample(s) arrive at the laboratory more than 24 hours after collection then:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Samples must be received with evidence of cooling (wet ice or frozen "blue ice" packs) <i>and</i> • samples cannot be frozen. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Samples must be received with evidence of cooling (wet ice or frozen "blue ice" packs) <i>and</i> • must be within the required temperature range for the testing method; most commonly less than 6° C <i>and</i> • cannot be frozen.

Effective Immediately, samples that do not meet the above requirements will be rejected for testing and resampling will need to occur. Sample handling is critical to obtaining valid test data.

The following are some reminders to ensuring valid data and avoid resampling:

- When using *blue ice* chill your sample(s) in a refrigerator or cooler with wet ice before shipping/delivering the sample.
- Be mindful of weather conditions and time of transport. Warmer temperatures and longer shipping times may require more ice or blue ice. Colder temperatures may require less ice or blue ice to maintain temperature without freezing.

SHL will continue to provide ice packs for shipping. It is important that ice packs are **frozen** prior to shipping. If you prefer to ship on wet ice or have any questions regarding this notice, please call us at 1-800-421-4692 for instructions.